



Professor David Gunnell

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Summary

Activities / Findings

Gunnell D, Hawton K, Kapur N, Donovan J, Potokar J, Hollingworth W, Lennon S, Davies R, Cooper J, Saunders K, Davies L, Metcalfe C, Longson D, Claydon D, O'Connor R. *A multi-centre programme of clinical and public health research to guide health service priorities for preventing suicide in England* NIHR 2012. April 2012-March 2017. £1,765,660

Iredale J, Sterne J, Angelini G, Ness A, Gunnell D, Lawlor D, Blazeby J. *NIHR Biomedical Research Centre Bristol* 1 April 2017-31 March 2021. £20,000,000 (Mental Health Theme: £2,170,000)

Campbell R, Jago R, Hickman M, Ben Shlomo Y, Gunnell D. *NIHR School for Public Health Research II* 2017-2022 Bristol budget £1,537,500

Kidger J, Gunnell D, Campbell R, Tilling K, Hollingworth W, Murphy S, Evans R, Ford T, Araya R. *A cluster randomised controlled trial of an intervention to improve the mental health support and training available to secondary school teachers - the WISE (Wellbeing in Secondary Education) project.* NIHR Public Health Research Programme. £1,296,600 1/12/15 - 30/04/19 (Ref: NIHR PHR 13/164/06)

Thomas K, Caldwell D, Welton N, Munafo M, Gunnell D, Stevenson MD. *How do smoking cessation medicines compare with respect to their neuropsychiatric safety: a systematic review, network meta-analysis and cost effectiveness analysis.* NIHR Health Technology Assessment Programme (Ref: 15/58/18) £323,834 1 Sept 2016-31 Oct 2018

Caldwell D, Gunnell D, Campbell R et al. *A network meta-analysis of complex interventions to improve mental health and emotional well-being of school aged children: evaluation of effective and cost-effective components.* NIHR PHR. £296,668 To start Sept 2016 (University of Bristol and UCL).

Mars B, Ford T, Gunnell D, Hemani G, Heron J, Joinson C, Moran P, Relton C, Suderman M. *Pathways to self-harm: Biological mechanisms and genetic contribution.* Medical Research Council/ Medical Research Foundation. October 2017 - September 2019 £223,400.

Keywords

- Epidemiology
- Suicide and Self-harm
- Public Health Research
- ALSPAC
- Life-course
- Pesticides
- Pharmacoepidemiology
- Mental Illness
- Population Health

Skills

- Suicide
- Self-harm
- Depression
- Cancer Epidemiology

Methodologies

- Natural Experiments
- Case Control
- Cross-sectional and Cohort Studies
- Randomised Control Trials (RCTs)
- Meta-analysis

Expertise

I have a long-standing research and policy interest in the epidemiology and prevention of suicide in the UK and internationally. I am a member of the National Suicide Prevention Advisory Group (England) and acted as an advisor to WHO on the World Suicide Report (2014) and several other policies, including their strategy to prevent suicide by pesticide ingestion. I am an NIHR Senior Investigator and lead a programme of research on economic and lifecourse influences on suicide and suicidal behaviour, suicide methods and the hospital management of self-harm from a UK and global perspective.

- suicide epidemiology
- mental health
- lifecourse epidemiology
- insulin-like growth factors
- height and health
- schizophrenia epidemiology

Memberships

Organisations

[Bristol Medical School \(PHS\)](#)

Other sites

- [Neuroscience](#)
- [Populationhealth](#)

Centres, collaborations and units

- [Development and Evaluation of Complex Interventions for Public Health Improvement \(DECIPHer\)](#)
- [Centre for Academic Mental Health](#)
- [Centre for Public Health](#)

Selected publications

- Gunnell, D, Wheeler, B, Chang, S-S, Thomas, B, Sterne, JAC & Dorling, D, 2011, '[Changes in the geography of suicide in young men: England and Wales 1981-2005](#)'. *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*, vol 66., pp. 536-43
- Bjerkeset, O, Romundstad, P, Evans, J & Gunnell, D, 2008, '[Association of adult body mass index and height with anxiety, depression, and suicide in the general population: The HUNT Study](#)'. *American Journal of Epidemiology*, vol 167., pp. 193 - 202
- Biddle, L, Donovan, J, Hawton, K, Kapur, N & Gunnell, D, 2008, '[Suicide and the internet](#)'. *BMJ*, vol 336., pp. 800 - 802
- Mars, B, Heron, J, Crane, C, Hawton, K, Lewis, G, Macleod, J, Tilling, K & Gunnell, D, 2014, '[Clinical and social outcomes of adolescent self harm: population based birth cohort study](#)'. *BMJ*, vol 349., pp. g5954
- Hawton, K, Witt, KG, Salisbury, TLT, Arensman, E, Gunnell, D, Hazell, P, Townsend, E & van Heeringen, K, 2016, '[Psychosocial interventions following self-harm in adults: A systematic review and meta-analysis](#)'. *Lancet Psychiatry*, vol 3., pp. 740-750
- Moore, T, Kapur, N, Hawton, K, Richards, A, Metcalfe, C & Gunnell, D, 2017, '[Interventions to reduce the impact of unemployment and economic hardship on mental health in the general population: a systematic review](#)'. *Psychological Medicine*, vol 47., pp. 1062-1084
- Gunnell, D, 2015, '[A Population Health Perspective on Suicide Research and Prevention](#)'. *Crisis: Journal of Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention*, vol 36., pp. 155-60
- Chang, S-S, Stuckler, D, Yip, P & Gunnell, D, 2013, '[Impact of 2008 global economic crisis on suicide: time trend study in 54 countries](#)'. *BMJ*, vol 347.
- Mew, EJ, Padmanathan, P, Konradsen, F, Eddleston, M, Chang, S-S, Phillips, MR & Gunnell, D, 2017, '[The global burden of fatal self-poisoning with pesticides 2006-15: Systematic review](#)'. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, vol 219., pp. 93-104

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Recent publications

- Lin, CY, Hsu, CY, Gunnell, D, Chen, YY & Chang, SS, 2019, '[Spatial patterning, correlates, and inequality in suicide across 432 neighborhoods in Taipei City, Taiwan](#)'. *Social Science and Medicine*, vol 222., pp. 20-34

[View complete publications list](#) in the University of Bristol publications system

Networks & contacts

- NIHR School for Public Health Research (SPHR)
- SACTRC - South Asian Clinical Toxicology Research Collaboration (Sri Lanka)
- NTNU - Norwegian University of Science and Technology (Prof Vatten and colleagues)
- Karolinska Institute (Sweden) (Profs Allebeck and Rasmussen and colleagues)
- Centre for Suicide Research - University of Oxford (Prof Hawton)
- Centre for Suicide Prevention - University of Manchester (Prof Kapur)
- National Yang-Ming University (Taiwan) (Dr S-S Chang and Prof Y-Y Chen)
- University of Edinburgh (Dr Eddleston)
- University of Copenhagen (Prof Konradsen)

Projects

- [Boyd Orr Cohort Study](#)
- [Suicide Prevention: NIHR Programme Grant](#)
- [The WISE project: Wellbeing in Secondary Education](#)